

DETAILS OF THE FOREIGN NEWS BY THE STEAM-SHIP VANDERBILT.

We have further particulars in regard to the late political emigration in Belgium. The following appears in the *Courier du Havre* of May 30:

We have already said how stirring the debates have been in the Belgian Chamber of Representatives in regard to the law for the organization, and, above all, the extension of the exercise of private and religious charity in that country.

The principle of the law was nevertheless adopted on the 27th instant, by a majority of 60 votes against 41, and from that time liberal representatives were obliged to give up a struggle which it was impossible to continue; but their partisans recommenced it outside. A few moments before the vote M. Frere Orban, one of the principal orators of the left, having been called to order, the galleries had resounded with murmurs, and this demonstration had been immediately rebuked by a new order to clear the house, which was forthwith executed by the guards of the chamber, which had been doubled.

At that moment M. Dumortier, a member of the right, rose upon his seat, and appeared to encourage the military to carry out their orders. Then the murmurs became shouts, and the chamber suspended the session, all the plagues of disorder accompanying their exit, which was not done without resistance, as it was full half an hour before the last spectator had quitted the hall.

The galleries reserved for the press, the family of the President and the diplomatic corps, were exempt from the order; but the expelled public would not acknowledge themselves defeated; they gathered in knots in the court, under the porch, and before the entrance of the palace, shouting "Long live Frere! Down with the consents!" These cries were heard perfectly well in the chamber, where they caused an emotion easily understood.

The session being ended, the members on the left of the palace were greeted with cries which were still heard outside. There were great numbers of the right, and cheers for those of the left, who did not appear to suffer from their threatening demonstrations upon the liberty of the tribune.

The crowd waited a long time for M. Frere, in order to give him an ovation; but M. Frere, warned by his friends, had left the chamber before the session, and the legislators were obliged to defend themselves by slugging the *Banbanque* upon their windows.

An accident nearly converted these deplorable occurrences into a diplomatic question. When the sitting was brought to an end, the first person who presented himself to the eyes of the mob was Mgr. Gonella, the Papal Nuncio. Decided by the ecclesiastical habit, and wearing the Nuncio for M. the canon of Haeve, which did not at all detract from the farcical gravity of the affair—the knots of malcontents commenced to groan and hiss.

Violently agitated at this demonstration, as may well be conceived, Mgr. Gonella re-entered the palace, and took several steps in the peristyle, where he met M. the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Upon hearing what had happened, M. the Comte Villain XIII offered his arm to the Nuncio, and reappeared with him upon the outer staircase of the National Palace, and accompanied by M. Demvor, a liberal deputy, M. Villain XIII and Mgr. Gonella passed through the groups of people and entered the park. The crowd understood the deserved rebuke which the honorable minister administered, and silently uncovered as a voluntary offering was made for him to pass through; but the first insult was none the less grave for that.

The deplorable occurrences which we have related rendered necessary some explanations from the Belgian minister.

Accordingly, at the opening of the session day before yesterday, 28th instant, M. le Comte Villain XIII took the floor in the Chamber of Representatives, and remarked:

"Yesterday happened an occurrence very much to be regretted; the apostolic Nuncio near the court of Brussels was the object of a grave insult. This affair took place at five o'clock; at half-past five the Minister of Foreign Affairs, in full uniform, was in the saloons of his Eminence, and presented him, in the name of his government, those apologies which the Nuncio had the right to expect if time had been allowed him to make a formal demand.

"From the Nuncio's palace I repaired to the Chateau de Laeken, where I gave an account of my proceedings to the King.

"The King approved of what I had done, and ordered the Grand Marshal to repair this morning to the quarters of the Nuncio of the Pope, to express the regrets of his Majesty.

"I think that the affair will end here."

These words, says the *Nord*, from which we extract the speech, received general approbation from the benches of the Chamber.

(Translated from the *Courier du Havre*, June 1st.)

Belgium, that model country, as she was called, where the liberty of debate flourished in the midst of the most perfect calm, and here fruits of a most important nature have, has herself just had her emeralds cut. The pretext of these agitations was a law in regard to charitable establishments discussed in the Chamber of Representatives, and in which the clerical majority of the chamber had conceded too much to religious influence. In the course of an interminable debate, the leaders of the right and left became excited. The clericals defended their interests as *verbares et cowards*; to which the latter replied by the epithets of *infamous cowards and liars*.

In short, things arrived at such a point that the populace, who up to that time had paid but little attention to the debate, became excited in their turn, and asked if they had not the right to repeat in Belgium what the honorable had said among themselves under the roof of the National Palace. They commenced by hisses and cheers—the first for the clericals, and the second in honor of the liberals; then came the song of the *Brabançons*, (the Belgian counterparts of the *Parisians*, which is a weak reflex of the terrible *Marseillaise*;) the verses of the *Brabançons* were vigorously repeated by the clericals, and down doors, and the mobbing of the clerical *Journal de Bruxelles* and *l'Emancipation*, the director of which, M. Coormans, is a member of the Chamber of Representatives.

After these exploits, which, according to the purest tradition, were revolutionary, the crowd gathered before the house of those cowards and liars, M. Verhaeghe, Frere and Orts, and shouts of a rather equivocal joy penetrated their windows. At last, to close the day's proceedings, the Duke and Duchess of Brabant, upon entering the theatre, were saluted by cries of "Long live the King!" The orchestra were called upon to play the *Brabançon*, which was heartily applauded.

"William Tell" was played that evening at the Theatre de la Monnaie; the Belgians, who have a good memory, recollected that in 1830 they preluded their revolution by the singing of the "Muet de Portici." It is probable that the ring-leaders called themselves "William Tell" would not do for revolution what the "Muet de Portici" did for the Belgian nationality. It was probably with this intention that the verse of the immortal triad—

Sais-tu bien que c'est que d'aimer sa patrie?
[Dost thou know what it is to love one's country?]

was so frantically applauded—plaudits which were addressed, not to the sublime notes of Rossini, nor even to the rhyming platitudes of M. de Joy, but to revolution, whose presence was suspected either in the lobby or behind the curtain. Up to the present time this mysterious personage has not made his appearance; let us hope that his debut upon the Belgian scene is indefinitely postponed. Nevertheless, this delay is not to be too much trusted in. Revolution proceeds by bounds and starts; it likes unforeseen opportunities; and it is precisely at the moment when profound peace is supposed to prevail that it leaps forth, armed at all points, to turn social order upside down.

It is a popular saying that an omelette cannot be made without breaking eggs. It might be added that an indefinite number of eggs cannot be broken without the intention of making an omelette becoming at least apparent. A country cannot be agitated with impunity through the tribune, through the press, through the clubs, through secret societies, by some fine day revolutionary logic will demand a practical conclusion to all this agitation, inaugurated and kept alive by advocates, literateurs, idlers, timid and inconsistent people, who sow the wind and are astonished to reap the whirlwind.

We have yet a hope that things will not proceed to this length in Belgium; but we are not without the logical question of events, and to the enemies of Brussels of the 28th and 29th of May the causes which produced them, and it will be understood that these causes could not but produce these effects.

INTERESTING FROM CHINA.

Hong Koo, April 15.—Our latest advices from England are to the 26th of February. It is intimated, however, that the semi-monthly mail to and from China and England is to be re-established, and the first steamer from this under the arrangement is advertised to leave on the 25th inst.

Since the 26th ult. the occurrences we have to report have been unimportant.

H. M. St. Sampson came down the river on the 14th inst., but brought no news of any interest.

The Chinese war vessels, which were at one time so numerous in the vicinity of our vessels, are said to have nearly all disappeared.

Rear Admiral Sir Michael Seymour has his flag at present on board H. M. S. ship Calcutta in the harbor.

On the 2d inst. the ship of the Hon. Company's steamer Auckland, at Tung Chung Bay, cut out a mandarin junk, which was brought in here by the steamer. A battery on shore, which opened fire on the boats as they were pulling in, was also taken possession of, and held till the junk was got under way. In this service two officers and one seaman were severely wounded, and four men wounded slightly.

An engagement also took place when the boats of Her Majesty's steamers Sampson and Hornet and ship Sibyle, under Commodore Elliot, attacked a strong force of mandarin boats and three lorchaes in Deep Bay, at the entrance of Canton river. Ten boats and the three lorchaes were destroyed. The firing that was kept up on our boats from the shore, where a great number of Chinese soldiers were congregated, was very heavy, but the only accident on our side was one man severely wounded. Some important papers are said to have been found on board the junks, but their contents are not at present made public.

The company's steamer Auckland left here for Singapore on the 6th instant. During her short sojourn here she succeeded on several occasions in rendering good service. The company's steamer Sibyle left here on the 7th instant for Singapore and Madras. Her Majesty's steamer Barracouta left for England on the 13th inst.

His excellency Sir John Bowring, after the receipt of his despatches by last mail, the 10th of February, visited Macao, where he had a conference with the French and American ministers. It is understood that instructions have been sent out by the imperial French government that the French forces in these parts are to co-operate with ours in the present crisis in China. The American minister had not received similar orders from his government. The French minister, M. Bourbillon, is at present here on a visit to Sir John Bowring.

There is a report of a murder which has been perpetrated here. Mr. Charles Markwick, government auctioneer, formerly a servant in the East India Company's service in Canton, and one of the oldest European residents in China, was strangled while confined to his bed by sickness, by one of his house servants, for the sake, it would appear, of some little property which was in his house. The minister has been informed of the case, but as the government have offered a reward of \$500 for his apprehension, it is likely they may ultimately lead to his being secured.

The Lady Mary Wood (6th) arrived yesterday from Shanghai, with dates to the 6th instant. The steamer touched at the other ports on her way down, and reports of the quiet prevailed. Above Chinmoo the steamer fell by two large iron junks, which were being attacked by eight large piratical boats and a heavily-armed lorcha. On the steamer approaching the pirates made off. The junks were taken in tow by the steamer and brought to Amoy. The crews reported they had been fighting for three days and nights. A great number on board the junks were killed and wounded.

Pekin Gazettes reach to the 2d of March, but still no mention is made of the Canton question.

A letter from Rangoon of April 11 says: "The China Bazaar, part of the Goods Bazaar, and the whole of the native town is burnt down."

The Shanghai officials, with it would appear, the concurrence of the imperial government, have imposed a duty of 12 taels per chest on the entrance of opium into Shanghai. The money goes into the imperial treasury for payment of troops.

At Ningpo a collision had taken place between the French and Portuguese lorchaes. Two of the former were wounded. The matter has been reported to the French minister, and an inquiry will no doubt be instituted.

From Canton we have no reliable information. Great distress, we hear, prevails in the neighborhood from the high price of rice.

Army advices reach to the 12th instant. Transactions in imports have been to a fair extent.

Footnote advices are to the 7th inst. 4,500 chests Congon have been settled at extreme prices; three vessels had sailed for Great Britain. A small business had been done in imports. Exchange on England quoted 58.40 per dollar.

A report has been received here this morning that her Majesty's ship Raleigh, on her way up from Singapore, struck on a rock somewhere near Macao, and it was necessary to run her on shore. The admiral, we believe, has advised. Assistance will be sent down at once to the Raleigh. A French war steamer will be one of the vessels.

The mail is closing, and we are unable to get any further particulars of this accident.

A BRITISH OPINION OF MORMONEISM.

The London Times of the 31st ult., speaking of the forcible abolition of the United States in Utah, observes: "The United States court, then, having been suppressed by force, and a formal act of rebellion against the federal government having been committed, it would appear that there was only one course for the federal government to take, and that was to despatch a military force to Utah to suppress the present territorial government, and carry on the laws by means of magistrates of federal appointment, acting under the protection of the military, until such time as a civil territorial government could be effected. If the United States government is true to itself it can have no choice in the matter, because the very principle of the federation is defied by this Mormonite act."

"The federal law has been virtually superseded in Utah a long time, and the Mormonite jurists have refused to consider the federal government as having any right to defend its own authority. The United States government, were, perhaps, wise in giving the Mormons more, and waiting till an act about which there could be no mistake was committed; but now, at any rate, the opportunity is given."

ELECTIONS IN FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

The Times has a leader on the subject of the differences in the methods of voting in Great Britain and France, in which the following language occurs:

"France thrives by a despotism, and we thrive with a very anomalous legislature. Purists and theorists want a thousand reforms not only in the Commons, but in the Lords, and far more in the latter than in the former; yet we have attained to great material prosperity and social happiness. It is a question whether we shall get on better with a House of Commons reformed into the most plausible and symmetrical representation of the people—quite as much a question as whether our neighbors would get on better with any other form of government."

"Indeed, if anybody comes to consider, it is amusing to see how very little visible share most of us have in the representative system of which we are so proud, and which we want to elaborate to the highest perfection. Either you never voted at all, or your member never votes, or he is always in a minority, or you are in a minority, or never speaks or votes, or speaks apparently at random. We jog on and on, and, possibly, for a strong public opinion, a power of self-reform, and a strong admirer of no name, the supporter of no dynasty, urges on the nation and the legislature, and has urged them on now for many years, intolerant of abuses, indignant of wrongs, and exigent of reform."

NEW COMPLICATIONS IN THE SPANISH-CHINESE DISPUTE.

(Paris May 28) correspondence of the London Times.

A telegraphic dispatch from Madrid announced yesterday that new difficulties had arisen in the negotiations on the Mexican question, and that a letter from that city of the 25th confirmed the fact. The Mexican question, comprises the claims of certain bondholders in the republic which are of old standing, and satisfaction demanded by Spain for the outrages and murders perpetrated on Spanish subjects resident in the Mexican territory. Though some steps have been taken to satisfy the claims, it is extremely probable that there is reason to fear that, in spite of the united efforts of Lord Howden and the Marquis de Turgot, the question does not present at this moment a very favorable appearance.

The President of the Council and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Marshal Narvaez and M. Pidal, are both moderate in their views, and pacific in their intentions; but there is a violent and uncompromising feeling of hostility against Mexico among the public, in the press, and in the Congress. In the Congress, the paragraph in the answer to the speech from the throne was drawn up by M. Gonzalez Bravo (the Spanish minister in England) in a much stronger tone than the corresponding passages in the speech; but it would appear that even this does not satisfy the deputies, and an amendment will probably be moved to make the paragraph more bitter still.

It is certain that the government is just now exceedingly weak from the many factions into which the majority is split; and as the Mexican question is the readiest and easiest of all means of opposition, Marshal Narvaez and M. Pidal are becoming every day less free agents in the matter. Besides the natural feeling in the public to triumph over the insolence of the old colony, an artificial irritation has been excited by persevering efforts and a lavish expenditure of money on the part of persons holding moderate views, and the Mexican government, who think that nothing short of hostilities will obtain for them the payment of their more than doubtful claims.

It is to be regretted that M. Lafregue did not arrive in Madrid some time before the meeting of the Cortes. The government feels that the deputies, although for the greater part its own nominees, are growing unmanageable, and that they are elected, and with ungrateful ingratitude presume to make a show of independence. There is now an outcry against Mexico, which people persuade themselves and others is patriotic; that unhappy adjective which is so dreadfully prostituted in Spain. On the whole, I fear that Lord Howden and M. de Turgot may be working, "not for Queen Isabella, but, as they say in France, *pour le Roi de Prusse*—that is, for nothing."

SPAIN AND CUBA.

A Madrid correspondent of the London Times says the result of General Concha's still talk of as coming, and that some persons think that the government may, perhaps, in pursuance of the conciliatory policy announced by Gen. Narvaez, avoid dismissing him, and await his resignation, which is expected as a consequence of some severe communications that have been made to him. The time at which his period of office in Cuba expires is now so near that personally to recall him might be taken for an act of vengeance, provoked by his brother's hostile demonstrations against the government. In truth, however, there are abundant and valid motives for dismissing him, even with disgrace.

As you may suppose, we are here kept minutely informed of what goes on in Cuba by numerous letters and frequent arrivals from that island. Recent accounts give details of the scandalous manner in which Don Jose Concha, marquis of the Havana, has encouraged, for his own advantage, the importation of negroes. In the early days of this (his second) command in Cuba he pursued the slave trade with extraordinary rigor and activity. Conditions of troops were established on all sides, and frequent domiciliary visits were made to the plantations. When this vigilance and severity had produced their effect, and owing to the rarity of the article, the value of negroes had nearly doubled itself, the captain-general suddenly relaxed the rule, and connived at importation, on condition of receiving a bribe of one head for each negro, instead of two, with which two negroes had been contented themselves. It is estimated that 10,000 slaves have been brought into Cuba during his command there, and that he has made about 800,000 dollars by the transaction. This enormous sum must be added, it is said, to others also very considerable, received in the form of *possession* in other ways, and his preferences and protection granted to particular enterprises. So that Gen. Concha, who is noted for his parsimony, will return to Europe with a princely fortune.

The Chamber of Deputies at Madrid was on the 28th ultimo the scene of a tumultuous demonstration. In the debate on the address, M. Combes was carried away by a natural indignation to denounce the new tyrannical law on the press in terms rarely heard in a deliberative assembly. His exposure of the censorship under Narvaez, its minute pettiness, ignorance, and brutal rigor, roused the public in the galleries to a phrensy, and the President went so far as to threaten to silence the orator, and expelled him from the chamber. Such a demonstration seems to have been a spontaneous manifestation, ending with itself.

Prince Galitzin, the minister whom the Czar has sent to Spain after Russia had, for a long series of years, ignored the constitutional throne of Isabella II., has been received by the emperor and empress with a rupture, which the ancient allies of the Queen, in her day of adversity, have never known. In a letter from Madrid of the 28th it is said "Prince Galitzin's passage through Spain from the coast was a series of ovations, and to-night the Queen gives a grand banquet in his honor, at which will be present the ministers, the diplomatic corps, and the high functionaries of the government. Such an ovation done to a foreign envoy, is unprecedented in the annals of Spanish courts."

VISIT OF THE GRAND DUKE CONSTANTINE TO QUEEN VICTORIA.

The London Times of June 1 gives the following account of the visit of the Grand Duke Constantine to Queen Victoria. After having saluted the Grand Duke, the United States frigate *Susquehanna* sailed for Gravesend.

His Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Constantine of Russia, arrived at Osborne on a visit to her Majesty on Saturday afternoon. As anticipated by our Friday's report no public ceremony or display of any kind took place on this occasion, as the visit was of a strictly private character.

His Highness left Cherbourg in the Admiralty yacht *Osborne* on Saturday morning with a light wind, clear fine weather, and the sea as calm as a mill-pond. No salutes were fired, either by the garrison or ships in port, as the Osborne steamed out. The yacht made a remarkably fine and quick passage across.

The Osborne arrived at Hurst Castle at 12 o'clock, and was saluted by the garrison with the usual 21 guns, and the only salute of honor which was fired, was the salute of the ancient allies of the Queen, in her day of adversity, have never known. In a letter from Madrid of the 28th it is said "Prince Galitzin's passage through Spain from the coast was a series of ovations, and to-night the Queen gives a grand banquet in his honor, at which will be present the ministers, the diplomatic corps, and the high functionaries of the government. Such an ovation done to a foreign envoy, is unprecedented in the annals of Spanish courts."

A look-out man was stationed at Hurst Castle, by whom a Saturday morning with a light wind, clear fine weather, and the sea as calm as a mill-pond. No salutes were fired, either by the garrison or ships in port, as the Osborne steamed out. The yacht made a remarkably fine and quick passage across.

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Near Cowes was lying the United States paddle-wheel frigate *Susquehanna*, recently arrived in order to assist in laying down the Atlantic cable. The frigate was under the command of the late Admiral Sir James Graham, and was the first vessel of her kind to arrive in England. The Osborne neared her at 12.55, when Captain Sands immediately beat to quarters, manned yards, and saluted with twenty-one guns in splendid style.

In order to give the Grand Duke an opportunity of seeing the fine frigate, the Osborne steamed very slowly past her, so that his highness had then a good view of one of the best and heaviest-armed paddle wheel steamers afloat. The *Susquehanna* is 2,436 tons burden, with a nominal horse-power of 950, and a crew of 320 men. Her extreme length over all is 280 feet 9 inches; breadth, 45 feet; depth, 25 feet 6 inches; draught of water, 15 feet 6 inches; and she has a 6-inch solid shot, nearly 19 feet. Her armament is, for a vessel of her class and size, unusually heavy. She carries 12 8-inch broadside shell guns, each nine feet long, and weighing 63 cwt.

In addition to this metal she has three pivot guns, two forward and one aft, each ten feet ten inches long, weighing 10 cwt, and each having a 6-inch solid shot. She is a barque-rigged, and has a noble fighting deck, with roomy foreward ports being 15 feet 6 inches, and the aft ditto 14 feet. To counterbalance this defect in her construction, which makes her head and stern high, she has a low bulwark on each side, and she has no bulwarks, or at least what are equivalent to none—merely canvas bulwarks. While saluting on Saturday the Russian flag was run up at the main and the band on deck played the Russian national anthem.

The royal yacht squadron battery at Cowes also saluted as the Osborne passed, and soon after her Majesty's ship *Eurydice*, anchored near Osborne, paid the same compliment, with manned-yards and ship-dressed. The yacht arrived at Osborne at 1.25. Prince Albert received her highness, who immediately visited the Queen. He remained at Osborne until 5 p.m. on Sunday, when he re-embarked on board the yacht and left the next morning for Calais.

There is a family residing in this city, named Connell, from Ireland, who are laboring under the most singular and perplexing delusion. They say that remittances have been sent to them from Ireland, and that the letters have been taken out by other persons and rifled. The amount is variously estimated at between \$1,900 and \$2,500. The most singular part of the story is that whenever a court is held in our city they imagine that their own case occupies pretty much the whole time of the judges and counsel. The brother of the woman who claims to have been defrauded out of the money attends the court, and usually supposes that the lawyers are speaking to his case. The delusions are taken by him as confirming his own rights. —*Trenton True American*.

The setting free of the eagle in Rochester, New York, grows richer with every new development. The Union says he has been in the possession of a farmer in Ontario county for several months, and became mischievous, destroying the fowls and committing depredations on the crops. The owner could not give away the bird, nor could he drive him away; so, through mercy, rather than kill him, he was brought there and sold to sympathizing citizens. When the committee set him free on the cupola of the court-house, they had to use a club to start him on his flight. He alighted again as soon as he saw a hen-roost. He is a filibuster's eagle.

A telegraphic dispatch from St. Louis states that Sir George Gore and suite returned to that city on the 12th inst. from a year's hunting expedition at the head waters of the Missouri. They report that the country was never in a worse condition respecting the Indians. The Santees and Sioux were committing atrocities against the whites, and the removal of the troops from Fort Randall and Fort Lookout in the Indian Territory had become an assumed hostile attitude. A party of troops had marched against the Santees.

Col. John Charles Blair, of Charleston, South Carolina, died of bilious pneumonia, on the 12th instant, after an illness of several weeks.

WASHINGTON CITY.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 17, 1857.

KNOW-NOTHINGISM, ITS ORIGIN, RISE, AND FALL.

Disappointment is ever fruitful of schemes to revive hopes and secure long-sought but unattained objects. The democratic and whig parties contained ambitions men whose merits had not been estimated by their party friends according to their standards, and, consequently, had met with political disappointments which they could not bear with patient resignation. Know-nothingism originated in these disappointments, and was nursed into activity by newly-inspired hopes. The originators sought to organize a new party, of which they should become the profiting leaders, which should appeal to the pride of birth-place, and to prejudices supposed to be easily excited against a religion not well understood and professed by few born within the Union; and to secure the advantages of a popular name, the new party was christened "American," although based upon an illiberality and a bigoted prejudice foreign to the principles and instincts which secured liberty in America.

Conscious that the principles upon which the scheme was based could not bear the test of open public scrutiny, they were veiled in secrecy, and all its arrangements, views, and objects were sealed with an oath. To guard those whose discretion could not be trusted from the danger of revelations, all were charged, upon leaving their secret political lodges, to make one uniform reply to every possible question, and to say "I know nothing," which conferred the name by which the party has been distinguished. This scheme of closing the mouth with a falsehood avoided an avowal of indefensible principles and precluded a discussion which would have proved their fallacy and their hostility to real American principles. Before the public was aware of the existence of an organization, disappointed democrats and whigs often drew into and subjected to the influence of those midnight political conclaves sufficient numbers to secure a triumph at the polls, and especially in cities where secret combinations are most easily managed. Many were duped; the managers assuring unsuspecting democrats that, in the end, the democracy would be benefited, while the like unblushing assumption that whigism would alone be benefited was made to unsuspecting whigs.

A few leading spirits controlled everything in every part of the United States, and the masses were sworn to obey, and vote as they directed, exercising neither independence nor judgment for themselves, thus submitting to a political slavery unequalled within our limits. The leaders ordered their subordinates when and how to vote, and whom to expel from the polls, and directed the application of force when deemed necessary and safe to prevent their adversaries from exercising the privileges of freemen. In the execution of these lodge edicts blood has been freely shed in this city, Baltimore, New Orleans, and other cities, including Louisville, where the torch, as well as the musket and bludgeon, wreaked vengeance even upon innocent women and children. Successes thus acquired were naturally temporary. The secret oaths and contrivances for controlling the well-meaning and ignorant were revealed by those whose conscientiousness could not be longer reconciled to them. The denunciations which honest indignation and patriotic feeling heaped upon these wretched and wicked contrivances carried conviction to thousands that such oaths and contrivances constituted treason to morals, religion, and liberty, and thereupon they commenced the work of renouncing them. The leaders were compelled, at least in form and pretence, to abandon their secret operations, including their oaths tending to screen guilty brethren, even in courts of justice, and come before the people with a public declaration of political principles upon which they professed to stand. From that day the doom of know-nothingism was sealed. Thirty States last fall ignored and repudiated the illiberal and narrow principles of the order. To Maryland alone was reserved the distinction of an apparent approval of what her thirty sisters had emphatically condemned. It is due to her to add that the recorded vote was not the will or voice of a majority of her voters. The war upon all not native-born deterred hundreds, and probably thousands of good, worthy naturalized citizens, and probably some others, from attempting to vote, while large numbers of peaceable, quiet-loving Catholics voluntarily staid from the polls. It is now history that very large numbers of both were driven from the polls by violence and prevented from voting, while the know-nothing mayor and city authorities used no suitable exertions to protect the voter, or to restrain, or arrest, or punish the aggressors. Had the vote in Maryland been a full and fair one she would have marked her condemnation of the illiberal and intolerant principles of the know-nothings. Although they may achieve an occasional local success through the means successfully used in Baltimore, and attempted, but failing, here, the party has fallen to rise no more. When its secret operations were abandoned its power was annihilated, and it fell, and the hand of resurrection will never come to its rescue. There is too much liberality of principle and Christian sympathy and religious charity in the breasts of our people to secure the stability or success of a party whose sole claim to merit rests upon birth-place and intolerance towards a single sect entertaining different tenets and practising different forms of worship. This party is substantially disbanded and at an end. The democrats who have unwittingly been seduced into its ranks will return to the standard of their old friends, who will welcome them to the path of right and duty, where alone liberal and just principles are professed, cherished, and carried out in practice. Illiberality, bigotry, and tyrannical action have no supporters in the democratic ranks. Those formerly whigs who can no longer adopt the principles and practices of this intolerant sect, and have no affinities for black republicanism, will naturally be attracted by the pure principles of democracy, and their beneficent results; and join our standard and form a portion of the only liberal party existing among us. We shall soon have, as formerly, but two parties in the country: the democratic, devoted to the constitution, the Union, and liberal principles; and its adversaries, by whatever name they may be known, who will be their opposite in whatever concerns either.

Col. John Charles Blair, of Charleston, South Carolina, died of bilious pneumonia, on the 12th instant, after an illness of several weeks.

POSTAL SYSTEM OF GREAT BRITAIN.

We have had upon our table for some days the annual report on the Post Office Department of Great Britain for the year 1856. We condense from this valuable document some items which may be of interest to our readers. During the year the number of post offices in the United Kingdom was increased by 368, making the whole present number 10,866. There were delivered 478,393,803 letters, against 456,216,176 in 1855, being an increase of 4 1/2 per cent. The annual rate of increase in letters during the last five years has been nearly 6 per cent. Nearly a quarter of the whole number of letters are delivered in London and the suburban districts; and, counting those also which are despatched, nearly half the letters pass through the London office. About 17 letters per annum are delivered, on an average, for every inhabitant of the United Kingdom. In London the proportion is as high as about 40 to each person. The colonial and foreign letters form not more than about one-fifth of the whole number delivered. The reduction of postage from a shilling to sixpence, made in 1856, has increased the correspondence with India already more than one-third—from about 800,000 letters to nearly 1,100,000. With France, in the two years since the reduction of the rate from 10d. to 4d., there has been an increase of over 1,000,000, or about one-third of the whole former number. When the postage for paid and unpaid letters between the two countries was the same, about two-thirds of the letters were posted unpaid; but now the proportion of unpaid letters is less than one-fifth. There has been an increase of about 125,000 letters in the correspondence with the United States; but the number is still considerably less than it was before the interruption to the packet service caused by the exigencies of the late war. About 71,000 newspapers were posted during the year, the average weight of which was rather less than last year, being now about 2 1/2 ounces. This diminution in weight is probably owing to an increase in the number of cheap and small newspapers. Nearly 3,000,000 book packets were posted, averaging about 5 ounces each. About 2,400,000 "dead letters" were returned to the writers, or 1 in 200 of the whole number posted, being nearly the same as in 1855. About 550,000 newspapers also were undelivered, being about 1 in 129 of the whole number. Excluding official packets, the inland letters average between 1/2 and 1 ounce, and colonial letters rather more than 1 ounce. The whole number of money order offices in the United Kingdom is now 2,095, an increase over last year of 165. There were issued during the year 6,178,982 money orders, 1 to about every 4 1/2 of the population of the kingdom, amounting to £11,805,562, or about \$50,000,000. The commission charged on these amounted to £103,395, or nearly 9-10 of 1 per cent. upon the aggregate amount issued; while the net profit was but £22,674, or a little over 1/4 of 1 per cent., which profit, however, was an increase on that for 1855 of nearly 12 per cent. Since 1840 the commission on money orders has been 3d. for sums not exceeding £2, and 6d. for sums over £2. No orders are issued over £5. The profit yielded by the money order office is derived solely from the orders of above £2 each, although these orders form the minority; there is even some loss upon the orders below that amount, the commission charged not being sufficient to pay the expenses.

Within the year the letter postage between the mother country and the East Indies, Western Australia, and Mauritius has been reduced to 6d., and the colonial book post has been extended to Tasmania, (New Zealand), Natal, and Turk's Island, and will shortly be extended to Victoria. In the various colonies and dependencies there is a continual tendency to lower rates—the lowest being in India, where there is a uniform charge of 3d. only. The weight allowed for a single rate is certainly very little, being only 1-10 ounce; but, taking the vast extent of the country into consideration, the charge is very low. Reductions, more or less important, have been effected during the year in the rates charged on books and newspapers, as well as letters, between Great Britain and the various nations of continental Europe, and negotiations are in progress for further reductions. A reduction of the postage with the United States from 16. to 6d. the half-ounce letter is desired; with reference to which we may here remark that no obstacle to the accomplishment of this object upon fair terms will be offered by our government. The whole distance over which mails are now conveyed within the United Kingdom is upwards of 61,000 miles per day; being about 2,600 more than at the end of 1855.

This increase is principally in railway conveyance; but more than half the duty is still performed by coaches and mail-carts, which convey the mails 32,721 miles per day, against 28,692 miles by railways.